**The Magic Sentence: Analysing film**

The magic sentence shows that you understand the link between the techniques and the director’s ideas. You will need to show that you understand the role of the director. You will also need to develop ideas and include specific examples. Magic sentences make a great start to a SEXY paragraph. Authors/directors DELIBERATELY choose techniques because they are the most effective way of teaching us about life/messages that go beyond the text.

(idea stolen and adapted from Ian McGilchrist’s Maverick English)

Here are some ideas SPECIFIC TO V FOR VENDETTA

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| **Director** |  | **Technique** | **Purpose** | **Theme** |
| The director | uses | mise-en-scene | to show us | * How power and control can be used and abused |
| The filmmaker | chooses | non-diegetic sound | to reinforce | * The examination of political freedom |
| [James McTeigue](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0574625/) | selects | Symbols/symbolism | to emphasise | * How totalitarianism can affect society |
| McTeigue | manipulates | hand-held camera | to illustrate | * Free speech versus censorship |
|  | takes the | sound | to epitomise | * Art and literature’s power to lift the human spirit |
|  | employs | sound effects | to represent | * How justice and revenge are interpreted and disseminated by different sectors/characters |
|  | utilises | tracking | to symbolise | How governments use fear to maintain power |
|  | changes the | music | to develop | Horace Mann’s injunction: ‘Unless you have done something for humanity you should be ashamed to die’ |
|  | develops the | character’s actions | to explore | We should be careful not to let political goals dominate individual needs |
|  | extends the | extreme close up | to make us aware of |  |
|  | blends | close-up | to deepen our understanding of |  |
|  |  | zoom | to teach us about |  |
|  |  | references | to contrast |  |
|  |  | lighting | to make us realise |  |
|  |  | pan | to make us question |  |
|  |  |  | to challenge |  |
|  |  |  | to highlight |  |